

blunts our sensibilities and stunts our minds. Less and less do young men of culture and taste use the filthy and injurious narcotic. And many who have been doing so are escaping from their thralldom by God's help. The time will come when by the agitation of Christian people tobacco will be looked upon as bad in its tendencies as liquor—

Which, is the subject of the second reform I mention. We are all agreed on the iniquity of the liquor traffic. The only way you can eradicate sin in your own self is to kill it. It is just as true of the great sin of the liquor business. But as young people we need to do two things besides talk about it. As many as have votes should vote death to it at every election, no matter if you do stand alone with God on this question in your community. And all should do as the K. C. of the Enon church did last winter, send petitions to their congressman and senator for the passage of reform bills pending in national or state legislatures.

The third great reform is the solution of the labor question. How to get workmen and employers to work harmoniously and how to win the working people to the church. The young people can aid in both by giving their lives as a living sacrifice for the welfare of workingmen's families in your community, by being their friends for the purpose of helping them.

Another reform which needs the help of the young people is the regeneration of society. This has two lines of activity. First, in what is called Christian citizenship, which aims to make the Christian part of any community the dominant part in politics and civil life. In fact the Christians of most communities can dominate the politics and corporate life of a city, county or township if they once bestir themselves. Here is a call for help from the young people. Sanction nothing in any party which savors of iniquity, but band together to resist evil and advance Christ in the city and county. Second, in what is called the social life of the community. A loud call is given to our young people to kill all forms of social amusements, by their refusal to participate, which appeal to the lower nature and which do not have in them the positive stimulus to make some one else happy. Christ must be got into our society life. We must frown upon any amusement which we would be ashamed to invite Christ to participate in.

Lastly, the young people must bear the burden of making so-called Christianity Christ-like. Too much of our church life is selfish. The churches do not feel the loss of the sinner in the community enough. Upon the young people devolves the responsibility of going out to these lost souls with Christ's heart-ache for their sins, Christ's sympathy in their trials and Christ's love for them, living in voice and eye and gesture.

Great are the opportunities before our young people. Great are the temptations to live for self and selfish pleasure. But I believe our young people will help to make the world more Christlike. May it be so.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

God's Challenge to the Young People of this Generation—(Concluded)

In our article of last week's issue we called attention to the doors now open and opening to the preaching of the gospel. Well might we say today, "Lift up your eyes and look on the fields that they are white already to harvest."

From our study thus far, we feel justified in concluding that God in his wisdom has seen fit to leave the world's evangelization in our hands. But though he has opened and is opening the doors of the heathen world, has removed what seemed to be insuperable barriers, and has raised up workers and abundantly blessed their labors, yet the heathen world is still in gross darkness. We can scarcely form a conception of this darkness. Let us suppose this condition: All Christian influences removed from our country, all Christian preachers, teachers, the Sabbath, the Bible and all Christian literature, then the people turned loose, each free to do his own will and go his own way, with no knowledge of God, nor of a Savior from sin. Can you imagine what our lives would be if such conditions as these prevailed? Yet this, even worse, is the condition of more than half the human race.

Now God has made himself known to us; and has given unto us a way of salvation and the Bible. The possession of these has made us and preserved us as a nation. But at the same time that God gave us these things, he commanded us to carry them into all the world.

Herein lies our obligation to the heathen world and our responsibility to God. How has the church responded? Let us see: If Christian preachers and workers in general were distributed in the same proportion in the United States, as in the heathen world, there would be fifteen missionaries and their wives in Greater New York, nine and their wives in Chicago, Louisville and Kansas City would have two, Memphis one, while the country districts would be without any hope whatever. Again, the annual income of the Protestant church is fifteen billions of dollars, and it gives about fourteen millions annually for foreign missions. There is fifty times as much money spent for tobacco as for missions, and one hundred times as much spent for drink. Dr. Pierson writes of a church that pays three thousand dollars each year to its choir and gives one hundred and fifty dollars for missions, and of a church member that put five cents in the contribution box for missions, and at the same time was paying eight hundred dollars for a box in the theatre. Finally figures show that while the membership of the church has increased three and one-half times in the past thirty years, the amount offered for missions has decreased one half. Is the church, today, meeting this responsibility that God has placed upon it? In the light of the above figures we must answer our own question negatively. Therefore the same question

now confronts us as the young people of the church, what are we going to do to accomplish our part? Surely God has given to each of us, a call to go or send. If he has called any of us to stay at home, or if perchance all of us to stay at home, let us make sure that our societies and our church is represented in the "Regions beyond."

That we may be able to do our part most effectively, some system is demanded. For this reason the ultimate responsibility in each society has been placed upon the Missionary committee, though this by no means removes any responsibility from the other members of the society.

I hope that each society will appoint such committee. For the present we will confine our energies to Home missions, but while so doing, we hope to be preparing ourselves for work in the foreign field. *Appoint that committee.*

Collections for Missions

How many more societies will do as the society of the Ashland city church did? If you have not yet taken such collection, make your announcements for such a collection to be taken at your Thanksgiving service. Then report your offering to the EVANGELIST or sister Mary Metzger, so that at the close of the current year, we can know exactly what we have done during the year.

Young People's Societies and Missions

I condense the following from the Missionary Review of the World for November. The Young People's societies have already done much to revive missionary interest among the young people of our churches, but they may do more. Toward this end the following hints are offered:

1. *Prayer* is the center of the Christian endeavor. Every missionary realizes the value and power of prayer. Therefore let the members of the societies pray for missions and missionaries. Let the Missionary committee at stated times lay before the society the needs of the fields and workers in order that the society may *unitedly* lay them before God in prayer. This will serve to create an interest in the work of missions and the societies will in consequence be brought into sympathy with the mission work of the church.

2. *Giving*. I believe that every society should make it a point to send to the Missionary Board of the church as it sends to other special objects. Otherwise the general work of the church is in danger of suffering at the expense of special work. This offering can be raised in various ways, either by subscriptions, monthly free-will offerings, etc. What we pray regularly for and give regularly to we will take permanent interest in.

3. *Read*. The importance of being well informed on missionary work can not be exaggerated. Prayer seems empty and zeal grows vain, unless we have knowledge of the work, its need, its claims and its successes. Therefore our members should read Missionary literature. You have such literature marked out for you by our M. R. C. Use